

E  
third difference signal producing means is provided for producing a third difference signal based on a difference between the added outputs of photodetecting elements of each side divided by the third dividing line, the prepit information being obtained based on the third difference signal.

Please add claims 6-14 as follows:

E  
6. (New) A reading system for reading a writable optical disc having an information writing track, a guiding track for introducing a laser beam to the information writing track, and prepit information including address information recording on the guiding track, the system comprising:

light receiving means for receiving a reflected light of a laser beam irradiated to the information writing track of the optical disc;

prepit information detecting means;

tracking error signal producing means for producing a tracking error signal based on an output of the light receiving means;

removing means for removing an influence of the prepit based on the tracking error signal and an output of the prepit information detecting means from the tracking error signal.

7. (New) The reading system for reading a writable optical disc according to claim 6, wherein

the light receiving means is a detector having divided four elements.

8. (New) The reading system for reading a writable optical disc according to claim 7, wherein the removing means comprises:

noise extracting means for extracting a noise component from the prepit information; and

a subtractor for subtracting a noise component from the tracking error signal.

9. (New) A reading system for reading a writable optical disc having an information writing track and a guiding track for introducing a laser beam to the information writing track, wherein the guiding track has prepit information recorded with a first pattern and a second pattern having a predetermined phase difference from the first pattern so that the prepit information in the neighboring guiding tracks do not overlap in the radial direction, said reading system comprising:

a light receiving circuit which receives a reflected light of a laser beam irradiated to the information writing track of the optical disc;

a prepit information detecting circuit which detects the prepit information;

a tracking error signal producing circuit which produces a tracking error signal based on an output of the light receiving circuit; and

a removing circuit which removes an influence of the prepit based on an output of the prepit information detecting circuit from the tracking error signal.

10. (New) The reading system according to claim 9, wherein the light receiving circuit is a detector divided into four elements.

11. (New) The reading system according to claim 9, wherein the removing circuit comprising:

a noise extracting circuit which extracts noise component from the prepit information; and

a subtractor which subtracts the noise component from the tracking error signal.

12. (New) A reading system for reading a writable optical disc having an information writing track and a guiding track for introducing a laser beam to the information writing track, wherein the guiding track has prepit information recorded with a first pattern and a second pattern having a predetermined phase difference from the first pattern so that the prepit information in the neighboring guiding tracks do not overlap in the radial direction, said reading system comprising:

a first photodetector having a first photodetecting element and a second photodetecting element divided by a first line optically parallel with a tangential direction of the information writing track, which detects reflected light of a first laser beam irradiated to the information writing track;

a first subtracting circuit which produces a first difference signal based on outputs of the first photodetecting element and the second photodetecting element of the first photodetector;

a second photodetector having a third photodetecting element and a fourth photodetecting element divided by a second line optically parallel with a tangential direction of the information writing track, which detects reflected light of a second laser beam irradiated to the guiding track including the prepit information;

a second subtracting circuit which produces a second difference signal based on outputs of the third photodetecting element and the fourth photodetecting elements of the second photodetector;

a level adjusting circuit which adjusts a level of the second difference signal; and

a tracking error signal generating circuit which generates a tracking error signal based on the first difference signal and an output of the level adjusting circuit.

13. (New) The reading system according to claim 12, further comprising a prepit detection circuit which generates a prepit signal based on an output of the second photodetector.

14. (New) The reading system according to claim 13, wherein the second photodetector is further divided by a third line optically parallel with a radial direction of the optical disc, and wherein the prepit detection circuit generates the prepit signal by subtracting an output of one side of the second photodetector divided by the third line from an output of another side of the second photodetector divided by the third line.

#### REMARKS

TECH/153223.1

- 5 -

(09/730,515)